



PROPOSAL EVALUATION

IRWM Grant Program – Local Groundwater Assistance, FY 2012-2013

Applicant	West Valley Water District	County	San Bernardino
Project Title	Rialto Basin Groundwater Model Integration and Enhancement	Grant Request	\$ 229,700.00
		Total Project Cost	\$ 229,700.00

Project Description: The Groundwater Model Integration and Enhancement Project uses a calibrated EPA RCM model to optimize the basin-wide groundwater management within the Basin caused by the North of Baseline remedial actions and the return to service of District Well No. 11 and Rialto Well No. 6. The result of this modeling project will provide a basis to determine the relative amount of water that goes into groundwater storage versus the quantity that is lost to remedial systems, production wells, and subsurface groundwater outflow.

Evaluation Summary:

Scoring Criterion	Score
GWMP or Program	5
Technical Adequacy of Work to be Performed	3
Work Plan	6
Budget	4
Schedule	5
QA/QC	3
Past Performance	3
Geographical Balance	0
Total Score	29

- **GWMP or Program:** The project is located in an adjudicated groundwater basin governed by the 1961 Rialto-Colton Decree and the 1969 Western Judgment.
- **Technical Adequacy of Work to be Performed:** The criterion is less than fully addressed and documentation or logical rationales are incomplete or insufficient. Description of project indicates the integration and enhancement of groundwater management in the basin using the EPA RCM groundwater model (specifically to evaluate pump and treatment system operational scenarios). However, the Project Description does not adequately demonstrate how the model will be used to improve groundwater management that is largely dictated by adjudication. It is necessary to know what flexibility exists in the operation of existing facilities within the adjudication framework to adequately demonstrate how new knowledge (modeling results) can be used to improve groundwater supply and quality. The Project description lacks the detail needed to adequately demonstrate the connection between new knowledge and improved basin operations. The proposal did adequately address the criterion to demonstrate collaboration among other agencies. The Project Description describes strategic planning activities that would be of benefit to all parties. Clearly established adjudication actions must be taken based on groundwater levels and prediction of groundwater level. Future model runs would be paid for by requesting agencies.
- **Work Plan:** The criterion is less than fully addressed and documentation and logical rationale are incomplete or insufficient. For example, while the work plan describes participation among some stakeholders through a Technical Advisory Committee, it does not include a clearly-identified public participation activity. While Task c.5 for the groundwater modeling project describes that an evaluation of the existing EPA RCM model will be conducted to assess the model's suitability for use in running remediation system operational simulations, it does not establish an evaluation criteria and definitive outcomes for the assessment. The work plan does include a grant administration status evaluation and reporting element for evaluating project progress and performance.. The project will not require access to private property.



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- **Budget:** The criterion is fully addressed but supporting information is not well-presented. Rationale for the proposed budget is presented with some rationale given in the scope of work. A detailed breakdown of the project costs is included with rates and hours of professionals provided, but is inconsistent with the work plan, (e.g., subtasks for task (a), Project Administration Costs are not broken down, but rather assume a 5% ratio with overall costs).
- **Schedule:** The criterion is fully addressed and documentation is complete and sufficient. The schedule is consistent with the work plan and budget. The schedule includes task durations and significant milestones.
- **QA/QC:** The criterion is less than fully addressed. No information is provided on specific QA/QC activities to ensure that high quality modeling services will be provided. The information provided does not cite that the groundwater modeling activities will be performed under the responsible charge of a California Professional Geologist despite that groundwater modeling requires the application of geologic and hydrogeologic scientific principles. The documentation loosely defines some activities that will be performed to assure quality work will be achieved (i.e., use of the ASTM Standard Guide for Calibrating a Ground-Water Flow Model Application).
- **Past Performance:** The criterion is less than fully addressed and documentation and logical rationale are insufficient or incomplete. The documentation includes information on past project change orders with adequate justification. However, some details on past schedule and budget performance were missing from the attached project status reports (Exhibits A and B to Attachment 9, Past Performance). The missing documentation includes the originally planned schedules for both projects and the original budget on one of the projects (Exhibit A).